



JUL SEP 2015 Volume 45, Issue #3

<http://www.salestaxtokens.org>

ATTS NEWSLETTER

Number 170

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President's Message
By John Ostendorf, R-518

Dear fellow sales tax token collectors,

I hope this letter finds you well. I write this upon my return from the ANA convention in Chicago. It was nice to get out of the triple digit temps here in Texas and go to a place where they describe 80 degrees as hot. Heck, that's our low temp for the day!

The ANA convention was awesome and a bit overwhelming. The bourse floor is enormous. I attend mainly due to Civil War Token Society functions and duties, but also like to take in the show and attempt to see everything on the bourse. That's tough!

Of course there aren't any decent STTs and there are only a few exnumia dealers; so I understand that the ANA convention isn't worth the effort for a lot of us. Heck, Chicago three years in a row (and I think four of the last six years)? Maybe the ANA leadership will wake up and realize what a dumb idea that is. I truly miss going to places like Philadelphia or Baltimore. My family actually wanted to attend when the convention was in a different interesting city each year; but three years in a row in Chicago - no interest whatsoever. Anaheim next year, so any of us with kids might find that a nice destination with Disneyland and all.

The best part of the show for me was the Young Numismatist Trivia Tour. The CWTS shared a table with TAMS. One of the free items that TAMS had for the kids was plastic Missouri sales tax tokens. If I had thought of it, I would have brought some Illinois STTs for the kiddos. Anyhow, I got the opportunity to explain what a STT was to about 50 different kids/parents. That was fun!

I would like to have another ATTS general meeting some day. A few of us got together in Chicago a few years ago and it was a lot of fun. Monte Dean and Bob Frye brought their collections, which we all enjoyed looking at. A few of us brought some favorite STTs for "show and tell". It would be great to do that again some day. The next two ANA conventions are kind of out of the way for most collectors - Anaheim and Denver; but maybe we can put something together at a spring or fall ANA show.

Lastly, I'm still trying to find an editor. The job really isn't that hard and I would be more than happy to help the next editor. The main thing in my mind is to get out a quality newsletter on time. If the editor has the material, then timeliness is actually pretty easy. So I truly appreciate Monte, Nick, and Ralph who have contributed great articles.

All my best,
John

Election Update

As of this writing, I have yet to receive any nominations for the ATTS board. Current officers are:

President- John Ostendorf
Secretary-Treasurer - Jim Calvert
Editor - vacant
At-Large #1 - Loran Frazier
At-Large #2 - Monte Dean

If we don't get any nominations by October 1st, I will declare the current officers elected for an additional term of three years (2016-2018). Obviously, I would like to see someone step up and take the editor's position. Thanks to Loran Frazier, he has made the publishing aspect of this position very easy.

Please submit any nominations (or inquiries) to me at johnoste@yahoo.com or by mail to John Ostendorf, 523 Hiwasee Rd., Waxahachie, TX 75165.



Take Care and Notice the Details

By Nick Sapone R-517

The proper organization of your tax token collection requires that you are able to see the details. Identifying varieties and sub varieties is essential to cataloging some of the tokens and in many cases those determinations are made by studying their small details. This usually requires magnification, so every collector should have at least a low power lens at hand. But if you take this a step further, there is another world of things to be seen that goes beyond acquiring the known set. This “other world of interest” has always been there and too many collectors are missing the added enjoyment that a closer look at your collection can provide.

If you really enjoy your tokens and the search for varieties, there is another dimension that you should look into “literally.” It has been right in front of you all along and all that you need to do is acquire the right tool and learn how to use it in order to gain admission. A jeweler’s loupe will transport you there. By looking at your tokens through the portal of such a magnifier, the door to a place of amazement will be opened before you. It will enhance your interest and broaden your scope of understanding about tax tokens, minting in general and printing as well when applied to the Ohio tax stamps along with punch cards and chits. Of course you will need the catalog so that you know what to look for but you also need a good magnifier. There is another level of collecting to be explored that is easily accessible and it would be a shame to miss out on what can be seen there.

Here are some tips about how to care for and view your collection and about how to really see the details.

Most of us mount our favorite tokens in a 2 x 2, which is good for viewing them. Plus it gives the tokens protection and provides a place to record some information about

them. Many collectors will staple the 2 x 2, closing it around the token to seal it from harm. But I no longer staple mine. I only fold the holder so the token can be removed from it more easily without having to bother with pulling staples each time that I want to have a closer look at it. The unstapled 2 x 2 will automatically be kept securely closed when it is inserted into a clear 20 pocket page. Just insert it with the hinge side up to be sure that the token can't slide out.

Not using staples also eliminates the risk of doing damage to the token by stapling too close to it because a stapler's jaws extend slightly further than the area to be stapled and can easily crimp the token. Your growing collection of page mounted tokens can then be housed in a 3-ring notebook. The tokens are much easier to store and to view when they are kept in a notebook like this and I prefer to use one having a zip up closure for enhanced security. With the notebook zipped shut, nothing should get lost.

Now that your treasures are organized and safely housed in a notebook you should be able to locate any one of them more easily for a closer examination. Magnification is necessary for that and every collector should have access to at least a low power magnifier. They are very useful but many times I wanted to see more detail than what the usual "magnifying glass" provided. One day I had the opportunity to try out a 10-x loupe. I was amazed at the details that such a magnifier could reveal "and that I had been previously missing" so I soon acquired a loupe for myself. The loupe opened up another dimension in collecting for me. The use of 10-x magnification along with a good light source will enable you to examine and study the smallest details of your tokens, coins and many other things as well. Such high power magnification is not usually recommended for coin grading but I recommend a 10-x loupe for any collector who wants to know his collection better because I am certain that he will benefit from using one. They are available in even higher power but a 10-x loupe should satisfy the needs of most collectors. If you have never used a loupe before, I am sure that you will be as amazed as I was at what can be seen with 10-x magnification.

When you are prepared to search for the smaller details of your tokens, you might start by taking another look at a couple of my previous articles that were published in 2014, especially those in issues 165 and 166.

Sales Tax Tokens Online: Mid-May to Mid-August 2015

By: Ralph Harnishfeger

Malehorn and Davenport catalog sold for \$49.95 on June 4th using the buy it now option

A group of 35 carded tax tokens, a group of IL provisionals included, closed on May 31st. at \$38.56 with 6 bids.

A lot with 900+ tax tokens, many in rolls, closed on August 2nd at \$34.33 with 9 bids.



900+ tax tokens
sold on August 2
at \$34.33 with 9
bids.

1935 Walla Walla WA paper provisional L106, R7, closed on August 1st. at \$32.00 with 8 bids.



WA L106, R7
sold for \$32.00
on August 1,
2015

113 carded tax tokens sold for \$30.00 using buy it now option on July 13th.

A group of 64 tax tokens from at least 5 states closed at \$28.95 on July 11th using the buy it now option.

500 MO, mostly green and red plastics, closed on June 1st at \$24.86 with 3 bids.
Malehorn and Davenport catalog sold for \$20.00 on June 6th using the best offer accepted option.

1000+ KS tax tokens in plastic bags brought \$18.83 on July 20th with 3 bids. I would suspect that this had appeal for those looking for errors, minor varieties or doing flea markets or antique shows.

5 tax tokens from WA and MO closed at \$16.89 on June 17th using the buy it now option. These tokens looked fairly common to me ?

114 tax tokens said to be from 8 different states with 21 varieties closed on May 17th at \$15.00 with 1 bid.

100 MO one mill cardboard “bottlecaps” closed at \$15.00 with 4 bids on July 16th. A small group of mixed states tax tokens closed at \$14.99 on May 11th with one bid.

6 IL provisionals including Bunker Hill, Hoopeston, Arcola, Carbondale, Keithsburg closed on July 7th at \$14.50 with 6 bids.

6 IL provisionals including Mattoon R4, Carbondale, and Pike County closed on May 15th at \$13.00 with just 2 bids.

50 MO zinc tax tokens closed at \$12.99 on May 24th with a single bid.

15 CO tax tokens, 3 different in groups of 5, sold on May 18th at \$12.48 with 7 bids.

114 tax tokens from 8 different states with 21 varieties closed on July 11th at \$12.00 using the buy it now option.

52 WA tax tokens closed on May 11th at \$10.00 using the buy it now option.

11 tax tokens from 3 states, looked common to me, sold at \$10.00 on June 9th. with the best offer accepted.

3 different AL tax tokens sold at \$10.00 using buy it now on June 25th.



3 AL tax tokens
sold for \$10.00
on July 25th
using the buy it
now option.

30 MO plasics, 25 red and 5 green, sold on June 7th using buy it now for \$9.95. There were noticeable shade differences in the tokens in this lot.

11 OK tax tokens, all the same variety as far as I could tell, sold around \$9.00 using best offer accepted on May 21st.

20 Tax tokens from 6 states sold for \$9.00 or thereabouts on May 22nd. with the best offer accepted option used.

About 30 MO green plastics, called a large lot?, sold for \$9.00 on June 9th using buy it now option.

20 CO red tax tokens sold for \$8.49 on June 4th using buy it now option.

New Mexico, error and correct, sold on July 25th for \$9.00 with 4 bids.



A New Mexico lot of 2 tokens, described as error and correct, sold on July 25th for \$9.00 with 4 bids.

15 WA and AL tax tokens, all common, closed on June 2nd at \$8.00 using buy it now.

3 different lots of 20 tax tokens, each lot had tokens from 5 states, all closed at \$8.00 on August 2nd using the buy it now option.

100 MO, 60 red and 40 green plastics, closed on July 10th at \$7.99 using the buy it now option.

150 MS tax tokens, 15 bags of 10 tokens each, closed on July 9th at \$7.07 with 18 bids.

About 20 MS tax tokens, as pictured, closed at \$6.50 on June 27th with 5 bids.

3 different IL metal, ¼ cent, provisionals, Charleston, Jackson County, and St. Anne closed at \$6.50 on July 16th with 2 bids.

36 mixed state tax tokens closed on July 18th at \$5.99 with one bid.

3 WA tax tokens, state metal issues, sold at \$5.95 on June 7th using the buy it now option.

15 state tax tokens, AKA milles, sold on June 20th for \$5.00 with one bid.

108 CO 2 cent metal tax tokens sold for \$4.99 on July 14th with one bid.

100 MO zinc tax tokens sold for \$4.99 on August 2nd. with one bid.

23 “random” tax tokens sold for \$4.81 on July 4th with 3 bids.

23 Carded tax tokens sold for \$4.25 on July 18th with 2 bids.

19 AL tax tokens sold for \$4.13 on July 3rd. with 2 bids.

20 Unc. NM metal tax tokens sold for \$3.27 on June 21 with 6 bids.

A handful of tax token lots, from a few to few dozen tokens, closed at \$3.00 this quarter with a single bid for most. Double that number of offerings remained unsold at that price.

20 IL state issued square AL tax tokens closed at \$1.99 on May 18th with a single bid.

About a dozen tax token lots, mixed in number closed under \$2.00 this quarter, many more did not attract a single bid.

32 MO tax tokens, plastic and zinc, sold for 99 cents on May 13th with one bid. A nearly identical lot closed on May 29th at the same price.

4 KS tax tokens sold at 99 cents on May 18th with one bid.

A mix of 18 tax tokens sold at 99 cents on May 25th with one bid.

12 WA round metal tax tokens sold at 99 cents on July 1st. with one bid. A similar lot, same price, but with 21 tokens attracted no bids when it closed on July 9th.

36 MO one mill zinc tax tokens sold at 99 cents on July 26th with one bid.

19 MO metal tax tokens sold on that same day, same price with one bid.

5 carded tax tokens with 5 states represented sold for 49 cents on June 21st with one bid. This was the lowest priced lot either listed or sold during the quarter that I found.

Organizational Report August 10,2015

New Member: John Hunter

Reinstatement: Rich Hartzog

Drops: None

Membership 08/10 2015 83 paid +6 donated

Financial Report August 10,2015

Beginning balance \$2810.84

Balance 05/31,2015 \$2555.84 Expenses \$255.75 Income \$0.00

Balance 06/30/2015 \$2318.00 Expenses \$261.09 Income \$24.00

Balance 07/31/2015 \$2329.35 Expenses \$0.00 Income \$11.35

Ending Balance 2329.35

Trading Post:

Trade my unc. Franklin Spears for a Bill Bringham or Dean Johnson for a Charlotte Keats. Larry Warner office@larrywarner.com

Casino Chips wanted. Check your top drawer, jewelry box, etc. Buying one chip or whole collections. *Contact Peter Volburg, P.O. Box 3037, Farmingdale NY 11735 or QUALPETE@aol.com

Looking for a nice example of an Oklahoma S-7. *Contact Jim Calvert at 1984 Lyn Rd., Arroyo Grande CA 93420 or jnlcalvert@gmail.com

Looking for OK S-6, Ok S-7, Illinois L-3 Astoria, L- 19 Casey, L-36 Depue, L-56 Livingston and L-104 Witt Co. *Contact Kevin Barnett, 17404 Hilltop Ridge Drive, Eureka MO or eldeaco@yahoo.com

Tougher IL provisionals and virtually any STT scrip wanted. Also buying entire STT collections. Please contact John Ostendorf, 523 Hiwasee Rd, Waxahachie, TX 75165 or johnoste@yahoo.com.

American Tax Token Society (ATTS)

The **ATTS** is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt, educational and research social club. It is registered as a 501(c)(3) organization under IRS guidelines. All donations are tax-deductible subject to IRS guidelines.

The **ATTS Newsletter** is the official quarterly publication of the ATTS published for its members, and is mailed first class from Waxahachie, Texas, USA. Copies are available to schools, universities, museums and other educational or related organizations upon request. The request must be made in writing on the organizational letterhead and signed by a legal representative of that organization. Portions of the newsletter may be reprinted if written permission is first obtained from the society and/or the original author. Articles reprinted from sources outside of the ATTS must have permission from the original source. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors of each specific article. Those opinions may not reflect the same opinions of the editor or other society officers. The **ATTS Website** is **www.salestaxtokens.org**.

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Information about membership, address changes, dues and donations should be addressed to the club secretary-treasurer. Membership dues are \$12 (U.S.) for U.S. and Canadian addresses and \$15 (U.S.) for the U.K. and Europe. Write for additional rates depending on the country. Lifetime membership dues are \$160 (U.S. addresses only), \$180 (U.S.) for Canadian addresses and \$300 (U.S.) for U.K. and Europe. The membership calendar year begins in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th Quarter.

The society's officers serve without compensation of any kind other than direct expenses incurred when conducting official society business.

Officers

President / Awards

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vacant

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